

Dear Colleagues,

### **Paper 2020-1: The Queen's Speech December 2019**

Happy New Year! We hope you have recovered from the work that you did over the General Election and feel rested for 2020. We were pleased to see [so many of your suggestions in the manifesto](#):

- 57% of commitments in the published manifesto could be traced back to ideas proposed by CPF groups;
- 47% of ideas in the CPF Members' Manifesto were reflected in the published manifesto.

As we begin another period of Conservative majority Government, the CPF has an exciting programme ahead. We will continue to work closely with the Prime Minister's Policy Unit, who are now listening to CPF members in ways that was not previously so.

One of our biggest innovations this year is our new, interactive website, set up by our Digital Officer, Katrina Sale: [conservativepolicyforum.co.uk](http://conservativepolicyforum.co.uk). This will not replace local CPF group meetings, but we know that some people cannot attend meetings. So, this is an additional opportunity for everyone to contribute in other ways. Please explore the new website and sign up for the online debates and Question & Answer sessions.

The CPF will also be hosting monthly webinars—or video conferences—with policy experts. Last year, our webinars featured ministers such as Michael Gove, Matt Hancock and Chris Skidmore, who shared their views on key policy areas and took questions from participants online. These webinars are a fantastic opportunity to hear from leaders in our party—from the comfort of your own home! We'll be kicking off the year with John Penrose, the new CPF Chairman. He'll be discussing the first policy consultation paper and our plans for 2020, as well as taking your questions and suggestions. You will need to register as a member on the new website to access this webinar.

Our consultation programme this year begins with this paper, inviting you to let us know your views on the Queen's Speech, including any ideas you might have for the budget. The closing date for this consultation is 1<sup>st</sup> March. With the Police & Crime Commissioner elections in May, our next consultation paper will be on Policing. This should help members and other supporters with the knowledge to campaign for our fantastic PCCs on the doorsteps, and we anticipate that your local input will prove invaluable to your PCC candidates. For more details on our plans for 2020, please visit our website.

Thank you to everyone for your time spent in discussions and a particular thank you to all the organisers. Together we can help even more to shape our Party and country's future. So, keep up the great work!

A summary of responses to this discussion paper will be sent to the Prime Minister, Party Chairman and CPF Chairman within a month of the closing date for submissions. We look forward to hearing your ideas as we continue to unleash the country's potential.

#### **The CPF Team**

<b>John Hayward</b>	<b>Flick Drummond</b>	<b>Andrew Sharpe</b>	<b>John Penrose</b>
CPF Manager	Voluntary Director	Vice-Chairman	Chairman

<b>Katrina Sale</b>	<b>Roger Metcalfe</b>	<b>Jackson Ng</b>
Digital Officer	Voluntary Deputy Directors	
<a href="http://www.conservativepolicyforum.com">www.conservativepolicyforum.com</a>		
<a href="#">@ConservativePF</a>		

*P.S. As always, discussions will be more greatly informed if groups are able to include members and non-member supporters of the Party from different age groups.*

### Executive Summary

*"My government's priority is to deliver the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union on 31 January... Thereafter, my ministers will seek a future relationship with the European Union based on a free trade agreement that benefits the whole of the United Kingdom. They will also begin trade negotiations with other leading global economies."<sup>1</sup>*

This Queen's Speech will **deliver Brexit** on 31 January and allow the Government to deliver on people's priorities and unleash the country's potential. The Government's first priority is to deliver Brexit on 31 January and to negotiate an ambitious free trade agreement with the EU that benefits the whole country. This Queen's Speech sets out how we will seize the opportunities created by Brexit.

The Speech sets out a number of proposals to **invest in and support our public services**.

The Speech sets out a variety of measures to **support workers and families**.

The Speech reaffirms our commitment to **strengthening the criminal justice system, ensuring it keeps people safe**.

The Speech sets out how we will **improve our infrastructure and level up opportunity** across the country.

This Queen's Speech deepens our commitment to **safeguarding the natural environment for future generations**.

The Government will continue to work to **strengthen the bonds between the different parts of the UK and to safeguard its constitution and democratic processes**.

The Speech confirms our determination to **celebrate and support the work of our courageous armed forces and to retain and enhance the UK's global status and reach as we leave the EU**.

### Questions for Discussion

Beyond the initial commitment to deliver on Brexit by the end of January, the Queen's Speech contained seven broad sections:

- Public services
- Workers and families
- The justice system
- Infrastructure, investment and devolution
- The environment and animal welfare
- The union and constitution
- The armed forces and foreign affairs

Bearing in mind that we plan on holding a detailed consultation in the coming months on each of these sections, please discuss in your groups:

1. What are you pleased to see contained in the Queen's Speech?
2. Is there anything that a majority of your group were disappointed to see included?
3. Is there anything else that you would have liked to have seen included?
4. If you have any specific ideas concerning the budget on 11 March, please submit them by **midnight on 7 February** via:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/budget-representations-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/budget-representations-guidance)

---

<sup>1</sup> The Queen's Speech 2019, Prime Minister's Office, 19 December 2019, [link](#)